

REMARKS

A. RESTRICTIONS REQUIREMENT

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants select to prosecute in this application the claims corresponding to Group I, claims 1, 2, and 24, drawn to a method for humanizing the VH and VL variable regions of an animal antibody of known sequence, identifying VH and VL regions of human antibody with smaller RMS and inserting regions CDR of the animal antibody in the human sequence without traverse.

B. ELECTION OF SPECIES

On pages 3-4 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that an election of species is required without mentioning how the requirement is relevant to any of the groups. Clarification is requested and removal of the requirement is proper for the elected Group I. To the extent that an election is deemed to be nonetheless necessary, Applicants elect with traverse the species SEQ ID NO: 17 for the VH region and SEQ ID NO: 18 for the VL region. All elected claims are believed to read on the elected species. All VH and VL regions should be examined together. The differences between the species, if a species election is indeed intended by the Examiner, are not such as to require separate examination.

C. FEES

The Examiner is reminded that the undersigned brought to his attention the fact that the USPTO mistakenly mailed the Office Action to prior counsel, even though said counsel withdrew and present counsel (the undersigned's firm) was appointed and acknowledged by the USPTO in October of 2009. The Examiner agreed that it would be proper for the Office Action date to be re-set. Consequently, no fees for payment of an extension of time petition should be required. If, on the other hand, it is determined that any fees are due or any overpayment has been made, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit or credit such sum to Deposit Account No. 02-2275.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3), please treat this and any concurrent or future reply in this application that requires a petition for an extension of time for its timely submission as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. The fee associated therewith is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2275.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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